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## Sports

- 21st Century Technology is Coming to L.I. Running
- Triathlete Donna McMahon at Road Runners Club

## 21st Century Technology is Coming to L.I. Running

Finish Line Road Race Technicians and its proprietor David Katz are bringing the Champion Chip Timing System to Long Island - and the Plainview-Old Bethpage Road Runners Club's Kings Park 15 Kilometer Run on March 22 will be the first running event ever held on Long Island - indeed in New York State! - using this new and exciting technology.

The Champion Chip utilizes transponder technology to provide faster and more accurate race results. This is the same technology used in the E-Z Pass.

The Champion Chip Timing System has been used for the past three years at such major races as the Boston Marathon, Berlin Marathon, Los Angeles Marathon and many more, but the introduction of the system to New York State at the Kings Park 15 Kilometer Run will mark its biggest breakthrough yet.

This is how the system works: Each runner will wear a small (approximately 1 1/2 inch diameter) plastic "Chip" tied through the shoe lace. (Wheelchair athletes will attach the "Chip" to the front frame of the chair). Each "Chip" has its own unique I.D. code. Competitors will run (or wheel) over a thin rubber mat at the finish line that instantly identifies the "Chip" and attaches the accurate time. The rubber mats have a series of antennae enclosed that send out energy waves that activate the "Chips."

With more mats, mile times for all runners can be recorded. The "Chip" will also be used for triathlons, with timing mats placed at each transition point.

Everyone who participates in the Kings Park 15 Kilometer Run will be participating in a major milestone in running and racing history. On March 22, not only does "The Challenge Begin," but a new era in running and racing begins here on Long Island!"

"We are really excited about starting off Long Island's biggest new and most challenging road race by using this new 21st century technology," observed Don Butchin, who will be directing the Kings Park 15 Kilometer Run for the Road Runners Club. "Two new traditions will begin in Kings Park on March 22, and we are thrilled to be a part of them."

Please call David Katz at 883-5599 for more information about the Champion Chip Timing System.

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